

## Contributions

### COLLEGE HAS OPENED

A. H. LICHTY

Many hearts were made glad when many of last year's students met face to face with both students and teachers at the opening of College on last Tuesday morn. After hearty hand-shakes, "Good mornings," and "Glad to see you's," etc., many of the old students considered each of themselves as a member of a committee on entertainment and proceeded to acquaint themselves with new students, of whom there were a goodly number, and then introduce the new students to others, thus lending what assistance they could to the new students to cause them to feel at home.

The enrollment the first day was quite good and has gradually increased and many more will begin work soon.

Some of us were alarmed for fear Brother Miller could not carry his work for some time without working a great injustice to himself, but we are all exceedingly glad and grateful to see that he is mending quite rapidly and is looking much better than he did a week ago.

Nothing need be said of Brother Miller's work here. All EVANGELIST readers are so well acquainted with him by this time that it would be putting it mildly to say he is an earnest, untiring, consecrated, proficient worker and goes at his work with all the vigor and energy that he has. No less can be said of Profs. Garber, Witter, and Furry. Prof. Garber as most of you already know, spent much of his time during vacation, in search of new and helpful ideas and has returned to his work this year, with greater hopes, higher aspirations and better qualifications than ever before.

Likewise Prof. Witter who has spent nearly his entire vacation at Winona in pursuit of new, advanced, and helpful ideas returns to us as bright and fresh as a May morning. He pronounces his summer's work a success and if he has refreshed mentally as much as he has physically we will never have a cause to doubt his assertion.

Prof. Furry comes to us, just from Notre Dame, and we all consider him an excellent addition to our already efficient teaching force.

Brethren, sisters, young people: I want to appeal to you to candidly consider these men. We as students point to them with *pride and admiration*. Can you find instructors any where, consecrated Christian instructors, that you would rather be instructed by or have your children instructed by, than some of the brightest lights in the church? Not one of the instructors here is here for the money there is here (primarily). If they *were* after money they would be elsewhere. Every one of them has had offers from other places with less work at double or triple the money they receive here. But they *are* here because their hearts are in sincere sympathy with the cause of Christ, and

are *heavily* burdened with the future welfare of the young people of the Brethren Church as well as all other people they may be able to help while performing their labors here. May the choicest of heaven's blessings be showered on them. It is their one aim in all that they do to hold up, in an attractive manner, before their students, at all times, as an ideal that great, matchless, loving character, Our Savior.

We look forward with regret to think that only a few short years and we will be turned out of Ashland College to perform the missions in life and yet if we only follow the instructions that we received by both precept and example we shall leave here, *true* men and women—even after the heart of Christ. Young People:—It is not only *good*, but *blessed* to be here. Come, and we will welcome you heartily.

Our other instructors, Brother and Sister Phillips, Brother Beal and Sister Berkley are all thoroughly consecrated Christians and are all well qualified for the positions they occupy.

It is not too late yet to enter school here this fall, but if you can't come this fall, make an earnest effort to be here at the opening of the winter term. Young people, if you can not possibly come this year, begin laying plans and collecting funds to come next year. We all very much appreciate the good work done and liberal donations sent to the college by the S. S. C. E. as well as churches and private individuals. May the Lord richly bless the cheerful givers and prosper them abundantly. Brethren, among the other things that both teachers and students need and would be greatly benefited by is your presence occasionally with a word of encouragement. When you are passing or it is convenient for you remember to cheer us by your presence.

### A TREE HID BY ITS FRUIT

S. KEIHL

It is written, He (the godly man) shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season. *Psa. 1:3.*

The main stem of a tree is said to consist of an inner shaft, around which are layers of wood forming circles, each circle representing a year's growth. Seven circles indicate sufficient maturity in some trees for fruit-bearing.

Comparing the Christian to a tree, his faith in the Lord Jesus Christ is the central shaft. He now adds to his faith virtue, (II Pet. 1:5,) forming the first circle, and to virtue knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness, charity, each forming a circle and adding strength and stability. It is written, If these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall be neither barren nor unfruitful, II Pet. 2:8. The trees of the Lord are full of sap, *Psa. 104:16.*

We now see, by faith, if not otherwise, a beautiful spiritual tree (Ye which are spirit-

ual, Gal. 6:1,) symmetrical in its parts, roots well grounded, branches extending heavenward, foliage rustling from contact with the breath of heaven, the Spirit of God, blooming in great profusion, vying in richness of color even the rainbow, but the bloom is soon displaced by the choicest heavenly fruit. Spiritual fruit, love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance, (Gal. 5:22, 23) either singly, or, in clusters are seen suspended from the extremities of every branch, from even the tiniest twigs. Fruit so abundant that the tree and its foliage are hid from view; and the "passer-by," feasting on the fragrance, beauty and perfection of the fruit he beholds, recognizes the work and wisdom of God displayed in his kingdom of grace, and he exclaimed, What is man that thou art mindful of him? *Psa. 8:4.*

May the Lord enable us to yield the fruit of the spirit so abundantly that the glory of God, as seen in the face of Jesus Christ, alone may be manifest. II Cor. 4:6.

Dayton, O.

### NATIONAL CONFERENCE

JACOB C. CASSEL

Another National Conference has passed into history, and those of us who were active in it are rejoicing over the record made.

The wisdom of having these annual gatherings becomes more apparent with every recurring year. A retrospect of the last four years is ample proof that the "boys" are not mistaken in their zeal. When we met in conference in 1896 Ashland College affairs were in perfect chaos and the school closed; there was no general mission work organized and foreign work was vehemently opposed, but in the conference of '96 plans were laid for the deliverance of the college from the burden of debt, which have since proven successful, but only because of the agitation and pressure brought to bear upon them by subsequent National Conferences.

In 1896 the general mission work was born but if we had not had successive conferences to nurture the infant it would have died several years ago, but under the nurture and inspiration of recurring conferences the work has prospered. The success of the Washington Mission and the very hopeful aspect of the Chicago work are proofs to this. If it had not been for the action of the conference of 1899 toward the Washington work the Brethren would not have a church home in Washington to day.

The constant agitation of foreign mission work has resulted in the organization of a Brethren Foreign Missionary Society upon a very unique plan at our late Conference.

The college endowment plan which has proven quite successful and will become the stay of the school, was evolved from our National Conferences, and every succeeding annual gathering will give fresh impetus to it.

During the past year an unfortunate complication arose in the district of Ohio which